

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/718,017

Applicant(s)

GILL, AJIT SINGH

Examiner

James M. Hewitt

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the reply filed 7/13/05.2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.(b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.**Attachment(s)**1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance9. ☐ Other _____


JAMES M. HEWITT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Mallinckrodt on 9/20/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

The status identifier "(Withdrawn)" for each of claims 3, 5-21 and 25-27 has been replaced with the status identifier --(Currently Amended)--.

In claim 4 line 14, --second-- has been inserted before "means".

In claim 18 line 3, --portion-- has been inserted after "end".

In claim 19 line 2, --portion-- has been inserted after "end".

In claim 20 line 3, --portion-- has been inserted after "end".

In claim 21 line 2, "flange" has been replaced with --shoulder ring--.

In claim 21 line 2, --portion-- has been inserted after "end".

In claim 22 line 2, "the end portions" has been replaced with --end portions--.

In claim 22 line 3, "sealing means" has been deleted.

In claim 24 line 3, --at least one-- has been inserted before "gasket".

In claim 25 line 2, "gasket seal" has been replaced with --at least one gasket--.

In claim 25 line 2, "seal" has been replaced with --at least one gasket--.

In claim 26 line 3, "ends" has been replaced with --end portions--.

In claim 27 line 2, --at least one-- has been inserted before "gasket".

In claim 27 line 4, "ends" has been replaced with --end portions--.

EXAMINER'S COMMENT

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: In each of Figures 1-14, every component is depicted with cross-hatching corresponding to metal. This is inaccurate; at least the diaphragm seal should be depicted with a cross-hatching that does not correspond to metal. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes. No new matter should be introduced.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not disclose, singly or in combination, a coupling as claimed in detail in claim 1.

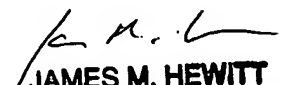
The closest prior art, DeMore et al (US 6,1106,029), fails to teach or fairly suggest the limitation "means for securing the jaw members to the coupling body, said means cooperable with the outer end taper so that linear movement of the jaw members away from the end of the inner end taper adjacent the end of the coupling body causes movement of the jaw members radially outwardly of the coupling body away from the end portion of the pipe when received in the coupling body."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M. Hewitt whose telephone number is 571-272-7084.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JAMES M. HEWITT
PRIMARY EXAMINER